

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A backframe for a self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is formed of a molded shell having some depth, and a closure plate fixed to the shell to provide an enclosed volume. The molded shell with the closure plate yields a good weight-to-strength ratio, and provides a water- and dust-resistant enclosure for control components of the SCBA. A water-tight battery compartment is enclosed within the shell so the batteries are separated from other components. A low air pressure alarm provides an auditory signal, and may also include a tactile signal. A buddy breathing hose can be pulled from the backframe to provide a reasonable length tether; and, by connecting two such buddy breathing hoses, twice the length is provided.

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